

Wilton Brener's book, "The Garrison Case"

Some of you have already read Brener's book. Others may. I have. I am writing to solicit any opinions you have about it and the reasons for these opinions, if any. I avoid expressing mine for I do not want to color yours, even indirectly. Several of you know how I felt after reading his two references to me.

I am especially interested in any opinions you may form or any conjectures that may have suggested themselves to you for his reason or reasons in writing it, whether or not he had any assistance in any aspect and if you believe he did or may have, from whom and for what reason(s). If you have reason to believe he did this entirely alone, I'd like to know that and why you so feel.

All of you have familiarity with the case, as distinguished from his attitude toward Garrison. The book is titled on the "case". I'd like you opinions on how he handled it and, if you have any feelings about why he did or did not do certain things, that also. It is never possible to be complete in a book covering such a vast amount of material, which can give significance to what is omitted. Likewise, it is inevitable that almost any author may include what others may believe to be extraneous, for his own purposes. If you have any beliefs about this and any reasons I'd welcome them.

As you realize, I would not make this request of you if I had not formed certain beliefs of my own. I want to test them and I want to learn whether or not others have the same feelings or beliefs. And, if so, why. Likewise, if others hold contrary views, again also why. I do believe the book had a purpose. An obvious one is to expose Garrison. Another may be to discourage others who may plan something similar, about this case or in other areas. Still another could be to serve the interests of his clients, not all of whom are enumerated, naturally and possibly unnaturally.

Some of you may have read the serialization and not the book. Unless you intend not reading the book, I'd prefer waiting until you do.

Some of you may believe as I do, but for different reasons. Of course, some may entirely disagree.

When I ask your opinions about his handling, I meant to include also a general comment, whether or not fair or reasonably fair.

Harold Weisberg